

# Pirate's Treasure

## East Carolina University Special Collections Department Newsletter



### CHARLES LEWIS PRICE (1923-2006)

The East Carolina Manuscript Collection has lost one of its founders and strongest supporters. Dr. Charles L. Price, professor *emeritus* of history at East Carolina University, died at his home June 8, 2006. In the mid-1960s, Dr. Price was instrumental in the development by the Department of History of the East Carolina Manuscript Collection as a resource for use by students, faculty members, and scholars. He served for many years as a member of the Manuscript Committee, which supported the development of the collection. Charlie, as he was known to friends, established the Elizabeth Price Crockford Missionary & Church History Endowment Fund to support the acquisition and preservation of missionary and church history manuscript materials.



L to R: Commander H.A.I. Sugg & Dr. Charles Price

College and East Carolina University from 1957 until his retirement in 1983. He assisted the Department of History in developing its graduate program and supervised the theses of a number of graduate students. A specialist in railroad history, the Civil War, and Reconstruction, he contributed articles to scholarly journals, including the *North Carolina Historical Review*. Dr. Price conducted considerable research on the Freedmen's Bureau in North Carolina following the Civil War. His papers, including notes concerning this topic, have been added to the University Archives.

The Special Collections Department extends its sympathy to Dr. Price's wife, Doris, and two daughters, Annette Price and Kathy Price Williams.

— Maury York

Dr. Price taught history at East Carolina

### H.A.I. SUGG (1918-2004)

The Special Collections Department remembers Commander H.A.I. Sugg, who was another supporter and founder of the East Carolina Manuscript Collection. He served as a commissioned officer in the Navy from 1940 until 1964. His specialization in international relations earned him an appointment to the Political Science Department at ECU, where he taught until 1978. While teaching at ECU, Commander Sugg generously supported the development of the East Carolina Manuscript Collection. His monetary donations helped

the department process the papers and collections it acquired, and his donation of a station wagon to the department helped staff members travel for the procurement of these collections. He also aided the staff in transcribing the military oral histories by providing information about military terms, procedures, and items that would have been unfamiliar to the general public. In recognition of his continuous support, all military papers held by the department were dedicated to him in 1977.

— Adrienne Rea

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### SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT HOURS

MONDAY-FRIDAY  
8:00am - 5:00pm

SATURDAY  
10:00am - 2:00pm

*Please consult the Special Collections Department for closing dates by going to our Web site (<http://www.ecu.edu/cs-lib/spclcoll/index.cfm>) or by calling our phone number (252-328-6671).*

## UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES NEWS

### SPECIAL COLLECTIONS EXHIBIT COMMEMORATING ECU CENTENNIAL

*An Era of Progression-The College Transformation: East Carolina Teachers College* is now on display and will run through February 2007. The exhibit is the second in a series of four commemorating ECU's centennial. This second installment focuses on the period 1921-1951, when the East Carolina Teachers Training School became a four-year institution named East Carolina Teachers College. Suellyn Lathrop, University Archivist, states that the exhibit, curated by graduate student Adrienne Rea, "shows the evolution of a two-year training school into a four-year college not only administratively and physically, but also through the greater diversity of activities

available to a growing student body. The students really came into their own during the 1920s, organizing the Student Government Association, which truly participated in the governance of the college with the full support of President Robert Wright."

The University Archives' Web site, <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-lib/archives/exhibit1.cfm> has more information about the entire series. If there are questions, please contact the Special Collections Department or go on our Web page and submit an e-mail at the following address: <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-lib/Reference/email.cfm>

— Suellyn Lathrop



Pirate Illustration from the 1934 Tecoan Yearbook.

### NEW ADDITIONS/NEWLY PROCESSED MATERIALS

Archives staff are busy processing photographs and negatives; more than 14,500 descriptions are now available on-line at the Web page <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-lib/archives/photocat.cfm>. The site also includes documents and artifacts that have been scanned or digitized for other projects.

Since 2005, staff members have received records from Dr. Keats Sparrow, the former dean of the Harriot College of Arts and Sciences; Dr. James Batten's notes pertaining to ECU buildings and their namesakes; art prints from Dr. Donald Sexauer's collection; and Dr. Charles Price's

research notes on the North Carolina Freedmen's Bureau. The archives has also received some artifacts from the Alumni Association in the form of serving spoons from the ECTC cafeteria.

— Suellyn Lathrop

### RARE SIGNET RING TRANSFERRED TO SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

A historically important gold signet ring was discovered by ECU archaeologist David Phelps in 1998 at the ECU Anthropology Department's Cape Creek (Croatan) Site, Buxton Woods, Dare County, North Carolina. The ring, which bears a prancing lion insignia, is believed to date back to the 16th century. This type of insignia has historically been linked with English authority. For this reason, it is believed that the ring could have been owned by a nobleman. Experts have further theorized that the ring could have belonged to a member of the famous "Lost Colony." The ring has the same insignia as that



Signet Ring. Photo by Lynette Lundin

of the Kendall family, members of which participated in the 1585-1587 Roanoke Island voyages.

The ring was in the possession of Dr. Phelps for an extended period of time. It was transferred to Dr. Charles Ewen, present director of the ECU Archaeology Laboratory, on January 26, 2006. Finally, the ring was transferred to the Special Collections Department on February 1, 2006. A complete finding aid can be found at the following link: <http://digital.lib.ecu.edu/special/ead/findingaids/1061/>

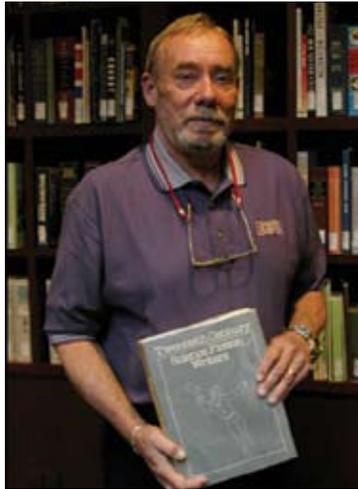
— Dale Sauter

## PROFESSOR DONATES FANTASTIC LITERATURE TO SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

ECU English professor Roger Schlobin has recently donated 3,000 volumes of science fiction literature in honor of his parents and established the James and Virginia Schlobin Collection of Literature of the Fantastic.

An author of seven books, Schlobin currently teaches science fiction and interpretive literature at ECU.

The collection was created to serve the needs of students and scholars of the supernatural genre, which includes fantasy readings, science fiction, gothic and horror fiction.



Professor Roger Schlobin. Photo courtesy of ECU News Bureau.

The collection also includes literature for juvenile audiences and journals.

ECU English Professors Chip Sullivan and James Holte have supplemented the collection with materials emphasizing vampires and Count Dracula. The collection's curator, Ralph Scott, recently donated fifty titles. The collection is still being cataloged.

— Ralph Scott

## CURRENT RESEARCH

Dr. Henry Ferrell and his colleagues have been using the University Archives collections extensively the last two years in their work on two centennial histories of the university. The first is *No Time for Ivy: East Carolina University 1907-2007*, an illustrated history. This book draws extensively from

the archives photograph collection, board of trustees records and student newspapers. The second is *Promises Kept: East Carolina University, 1980-2007*, a narrative history follow up to Dr. Mary Jo Bratton's 75th anniversary publication, *East Carolina University: The Formative Years*. Dr. Ferrell acted

as managing editor, with fifteen professors contributing chapters on such topics as athletics, the medical school, faculty, staff and student experiences. Both books are due out in November.

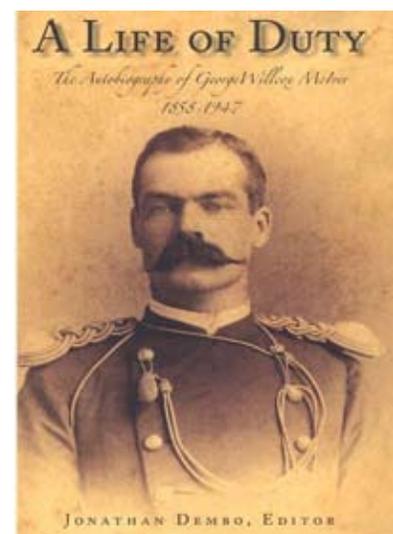
— Suellyn Lathrop

## STAFF PUBLICATION

Dr. Jonathan Dembo recently published *A Life of Duty: The Autobiography of George Willcox Mclver, 1858-1947* (Charleston, S.C.: The History Press, 2006). Mclver, a native of Carthage, North Carolina, served from 1882 until 1922 in the United States Army, reaching the rank of brigadier general during World War I. A graduate of West Point, Mclver saw service in the West, Alaska, Cuba, France, and the Philippine Islands. His extensive manuscript autobiography, completed around 1939, is a part of the George Willcox Mclver Papers in the Special Collections Department's East Carolina Manuscript Collection. For his 426-page book, Dr. Dembo supervised students who transcribed the original text,

wrote an introduction summarizing Mclver's life, and selected documentary photographs of Mclver and his family. The book includes explanatory end notes and a useful index. Mclver's well-written account of his life makes an important contribution to knowledge of America's rise as a world power during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. In addition to the autobiography, the Mclver Papers include numerous letters and a family photograph album. The finding aid to the papers is available at <http://digital.lib.ecu.edu/special/ead/findingaids/0251/>. Copies of the book can be purchased through Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble.

— Maury York



Front Cover of the Book, *A Life of Duty: The Autobiography of George Willcox Mclver, 1858-1947*.

## THE PRESERVATION OF HISTORY: PRESERVING MANUSCRIPTS

We preserve old documents to help protect our heritage. It helps us to learn from our accomplishments as well as our failures. Preserving means more than just storing documents. It involves control of temperature and humidity, maintaining security, planning ahead for disasters, preservation duplication of fragile objects, and such conservation treatments as cleaning, de-acidifying, repairing, and encapsulating papers. Thanks to many generous donors, we are able to extend the lifetime of important historical collections, making them available for future generations.

— Lynette Lundin



Left: Document about to be cleaned. Above: Lynette Lundin encapsulating a document. Photos by Lynette Lundin and University Archives.

*Greenville Urban Renewal Files (Collection #674)* These records of the Greenville Redevelopment Commission were received from the City of Greenville's Planning and Community Development Department. The files, covering the period from 1959 to 1977, include records, appraisals, descriptions, contracts, and photographs of properties destroyed. Staff are making black and white negatives of photographs of all the buildings that were demolished. The finding aid is available at <http://digital.lib.ecu.edu/special/ead/findingaids/0674/>

## PRESERVATION PROJECTS

*Daily Reflector Collection (Collection #741)* This is a collection of press negatives from the *Greenville Daily Reflector* (1949-1967). The donor was Mr. Jordan Whichard. Staff are replacing the highly acidic containers with archival negative preservers, which will protect the negatives from fingerprints, scratches and dust, thus insuring their long-term preservation. We are also recording all of the information pertaining to these negatives as well as cleaning and repairing them. The collection's finding aid is available at: <http://digital.lib.ecu.edu/special/ead/findingaids/0741/>

*William H. Rowland Papers (Collection #876)* This collection documents the archaeological excavation of the Confederate defensive fortifications below Kinston and the CSS NEUSE, a confederate ironclad gunboat. Staff are making black and white photographs from all of the negatives and putting the negatives into archival enclosures, transferring documentation to the new enclosures. The finding aid is available at: <http://digital.lib.ecu.edu/special/ead/findingaids/0876/>

— Lynette Lundin

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Martha G. Elmore is the Manuscript Archivist in the Special Collections Department. Martha completed her B.A. in history and anthropology at East Carolina University in 1979. She has been a permanent employee in Special Collections for twenty-three years, although she worked in temporary positions in the department for several years before that.

Martha trains and supervises student workers in the processing of collections and assisting researchers, processes collections, handles research requests and assists with supervising the search room. With "tongue in cheek," she says that her favorite part of the job is producing Encoded Archival Descriptive finding aids and maintaining the EAD template.

— Dale Sauter



Martha Elmore. Photo courtesy of Lynette Lundin.

## RECENT ACQUISITIONS FOR THE EAST CAROLINA MANUSCRIPT COLLECTION

Since 1 July 2006, the Manuscript Collection has accessioned 51 new collections or additions to existing collections. By volume this amounts to about 100.226 cubic feet of manuscript materials or 135,991 individual document sheets. Two large collections, the Randy D. Doub Papers and the William Royce Linder Papers, account for more than three-quarters of this total (74 cubic feet).

Randy D. Doub is a Greenville resident and ECU graduate who has been nominated to serve as a U.S. District Judge. He has donated the records of his political activities in behalf of Governor Jim Martin and as a member of the North Carolina Board of Transportation from the period 1979 to 2002. These papers provide especially significant new information on North Carolina politics and highway development during the 1980s.

William R. Linder was an internationally known genealogist and archivist, who among his numerous administrative posi-

tions, was director of the Central Reference Division of the National Archives from 1969 until 1982. His papers contain a wealth of genealogical research materials and information about his numerous genealogical publications.

While less voluminous, the Albert Parker Niblack Collection may be the most significant historically of these recent additions. Amounting to only 2 cubic feet, the Niblack collection documents Niblack's naval and scientific careers from his Naval Academy days in the 1870s to his retirement as a rear admiral in 1923. It documents his naval exploits during the Spanish American War in the Philippines; during the American occupation of Vera Cruz, Mexico; as commander of American warships in Europe during World War I; and as a head of Naval Intelligence in the postwar period.

The collection also includes significant materials pertaining to Niblack's service as a naval attaché in Rome, Vienna, Berlin, and London

at various times from the 1890s to the 1920s and as a delegate to the International Hydrographic Bureau, 1924-1929. The collection also includes many of Niblack's important publications, focusing on his oceanographic studies.

Among the other significant collections is the City of Greenville Police Department Records, consisting primarily of public relations slides of police training procedures during the period of 1960 to 1970. The slides portray police department personnel investigating crimes, arresting suspects, assisting accident victims, training for emergencies, and using various types of equipment.

For access to these and other interesting recent acquisitions, please contact the Special Collections Department at 252-328-6671, or visit our departmental Web site at <http://www.ecu.edu/cs-lib/spclcoll/index.cfm>

—Jonathan Dembo



Motorcycles in front of the P.D. Memorial Service for fallen officers-Greenville City Hall Municipal Court Room. Photo from the City of Greenville Police Dept. Records.

### FEATURED IMAGE

This is a photo of the lobby of the historic Proctor Hotel located at Third and Evans Streets in Greenville. The hotel was in operation at the time of World War I and was considered one of the finest hotels in North Carolina. It had sixty rooms that were equipped with hot and cold running water and electric call bells. Many of the rooms

had a private bath. There were electric elevators and lights. The hotel featured a lobby, office, large dining room and reading rooms. It was elegantly furnished and had an air of refinement, according to a brochure about Greenville published in 1914. Renovated in 2004, the four-story structure is now named the Self Help Building.

This photo and many more scenes of North Carolina can be found in the Albert A. Joseph Collection (#682) in the Manuscript Collection. The finding aid is available at: <http://digital.lib.ecu.edu/special/ead/findingaids/0682/>

— Brian Johnson



Proctor Hotel Lobby, Greenville, N. Car.

18057

Proctor Hotel Lobby, Greenville, North Carolina

### OUR MISSION

The Special Collections Department supports the goals of Joyner Library and East Carolina University by acquiring, preserving, describing, and making available for research purposes original manuscript and archival collections, rare published works and other historical materials. It maintains a closed stack, non-circulating repository for the care and security of its unique, rare and valuable historic collections. The department is open to the students, staff and faculty of East Carolina University and to members of the general public. It provides equal access to all qualified researchers who provide the required proof of identification and of their willingness to abide by the rules and regulations of the repository. The Special Collections Department is open to researchers and visitors Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m.— 5:00 p.m. and on Saturdays from 10:00 a.m.— 2:00 p.m. during semesters. Please consult the Special Collections Department for closing dates at [www.ecu.edu/cs-lib/spcoll/index.cfm](http://www.ecu.edu/cs-lib/spcoll/index.cfm) or call the desk at 252-328-6671.

**STAFF DIRECTORY**

**Coleen Allen** - Library Assistant

**Jonathan Dembo** - Curator of Special Collections Projects

**Martha Elmore** - Manuscript Archivist

**Nanette Hardison** - Library Technical Assistant

**Brian Johnson** - Records Manager

**Suellyn Lathrop** - University Archivist

**Lynette Lundin** - Photo Lab Technician

**Dale Sauter** - Manuscript Curator

**Ralph Lee Scott** - Associate Curator

**Maury York** - Interim Department Head



Jonathan Dembo, Curator of Special Collections Projects, talking to Dr. Karen Zipf of the Department of History. Photo by Lynette Lundin.

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

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Greenville, NC 27858

